



# KANAWHA-CHARLESTON HEALTH DEPARTMENT

108 Lee Street, East /PO Box 927

Charleston, WV 25323-0927

(304) 344-KCHD (5243)

[www.kchdvw.org](http://www.kchdvw.org)

September 14, 2018

Kallie Cart  
WCHS/WVAH-TV

Via E-mail [kjcart@sbgtv.com](mailto:kjcart@sbgtv.com)

Dear Ms. Cart:

Your FOIA request dated September 13, 2018 is listed below along with the responses.

1. "An e-mail dated 9-10-18 or 9-11-18 from Martha Yeager Walker to Kanawha-Charleston Health Department board members and Lolita Kirk inquiring about the September 10th Charleston Gazette-Mail article regarding KCHD needle exchange program."
2. "Brenda Issac's 9-10-18 and or 9-11-18 response to board members and Lolita Kirk discussing the newspaper article regarding the KCHD needle exchange program."
3. "Robert Reishman's response to Brenda Issac on 9-10-18 or 9-11-18 regarding the KCHD needle exchange program."

Attached are the requested documents. As this information was available electronically, the fees for any copies has been waived.

Sincerely,

Lolita Kirk  
Acting Executive Director

Administration		Clinic	Environmental	Epidemiology & Threat Preparedness	Prevention & Wellness		
Phone:	304.348.6494	Phone:	304.348.8080	Phone:	304.348.1088	Phone:	304.348.6493
Fax:	304.348.6821	Fax:	304.346.4756	Fax:	304.348.8054	Fax:	304.348.8149
						Fax:	304.348.6821

## Kirk, Lolita

---

**From:** Martha Walker <mywwin@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 11, 2018 3:50 PM  
**To:** Steve Weber; robert@reishman.com; Kirk, Lolita; JamesWStrawn@Gmail.com; Brenda Isaac; Brenda Isaac; arubin@osteowwsom.edu  
**Subject:** Board Meeting

I am going to be unavailable for the September board meeting. Because of all of the new interest in the needle exchange generated by today's media coverage, including Facebook, I feel it is important for the entire board to have a robust discussion about the needle exchange and what action the board needs to take. I am not sure what has caused this renewed interest, but I don't think we need to be in the crosshairs again. I suggest we cancel our September meeting, meet in November, and have a make up meeting sometime during the session. I hope you will all considerate it.

Sent by Martha Walker

## Kirk, Lolita

---

**From:** BRENDA ISAAC <bcisaac@mail.kana.k12.wv.us>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 11, 2018 4:14 PM  
**To:** Martha Walker; Steve Weber; robert@reishman.com; Kirk, Lolita; JamesWStrawn@gmail.com; Brenda Isaac; arubin@osteo.wvsom.edu  
**Subject:** RE: Board Meeting

Martha

We already have a presentation planned by Cabin Creek on their new partnership with us (nothing to do with syringe exchange) and we need to discuss the CDC recommendations around Hepatitis A. These are important issues that need to be discussed this month so I am not inclined to cancel the meeting.

As for the article discussing the needle exchange, it has come about because of the safety forum that is happening this Thursday evening with the mayoral candidates.

It has been confirmed that there are some pretty sleazy ads going out calling Amy Goodwin the "needle lady" and weak on crime. They are intimating that we have made "secret" plans to restart our program and bring back the needles if she is elected. When the reporter called me, I felt it was imperative to unequivocally state that Kanawha Charleston Health Department has no intention of bringing back the Syringe Exchange part of the Harm Reduction program. That won't stop the Mayor's antics but nothing will since the polls are showing his candidate is behind and apparently they don't have any other issues to tout.

Regardless of what we do they will discuss it but at least Amy can say it is a dead issue but the substance abuse issue is still alive and growing and isn't going away and we all need to be working together to do whatever we can to combat that problem. No matter which candidate you support, I don't want KCHD to be maligned with lies to support anyone.

I do think that at this point we have nothing to lose and, for the sake of the hard working employees at KCHD, I am inclined to release the summary of those Reviews that we had done primarily to show that the program was not mismanaged and the audit was inaccurate and incorrect. We aren't bringing back the program but our staff deserve the vindication.

I am very proud of the outstanding job that our entire staff has done with the Hepatitis A epidemic which is also going to be around for a while. The CDC officials gave us some very sincere praise when they met with us on that and I want the press to hear that. Steve and Bobby, I know you were there and will agree that they were very pleased with the job done by our staff and the support from the state's Epidemiology Department and have some very good recommendations for us to continue the surveillance.

We also need to have an executive session to discuss the applications that we have received for the health officer position and some ideas for Tina's vacancy. I have to report to Commissioner Carper immediately after our meeting.

Anyway, Martha, we will miss you, and I am very sorry you can't be there, but we do need to have a meeting. I think we have a lot to be proud of and it needs to be said. I'm not worried about the denigrators because I think they are going to find that their rantings are stale and being proved untrue.

Brenda

Brenda C Isaac BSN, RN, MA, NCSN  
Lead School Nurse  
Kanawha County Schools  
200 Elizabeth St.  
Charleston, WV 25311

Phone: 304-348-6694 FAX: 304-348-6139

bcisaac@mail.kana.k12.wv.us

-----Original Message-----

From: Martha Walker <mywwin@aol.com>

Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2018 3:50 PM

To: Steve Weber <sweber6770@aol.com>; robert@reishman.com; Lolita Kirk <Lolita.Kirk@wv.gov>; JamesWStrawn@Gmail.com; Brenda Isaac <brenda.isaac.rn@gmail.com>; Brenda Isaac <bcisaac@mail.kana.k12.wv.us>; arubin@osteo.wvsom.edu

Subject: Board Meeting

I am going to be unavailable for the September board meeting. Because of all of the new interest in the needle exchange generated by today's media coverage, including Facebook, I feel it is important for the entire board to have a robust discussion about the needle exchange and what action the board needs to take. I am not sure what has caused this renewed interest, but I don't think we need to be in the crosshairs again. I suggest we cancel our September meeting, meet in November, and have a make up meeting sometime during the session. I hope you will all considerate it.

Sent by Martha Walker

## Kirk, Lolita

---

**From:** Robert Reishman <robert@reishman.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 11, 2018 5:13 PM  
**To:** 'BRENDA ISAAC'; 'Martha Walker'; 'Steve Weber'; Kirk, Lolita; JamesWStrawn@gmail.com; 'Brenda Isaac'; arubin@osteo.wvsom.edu  
**Subject:** RE: Board Meeting

Brenda,

I am all for having a meeting in November after the elections as well as our September meeting. I don't think we can do ourselves any good by releasing the report or having discussions with reporters. The needle exchange is a health issue not a political issue and it is too bad it has become one.

I would also suggest not emailing anything regarding political issues as they are public record.

Bobby

-----Original Message-----

From: BRENDA ISAAC [mailto:bcisaac@mail.kana.k12.wv.us]  
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2018 4:14 PM  
To: Martha Walker <mywwin@aol.com>; Steve Weber <sweber6770@aol.com>; robert@reishman.com; Lolita Kirk <Lolita.Kirk@wv.gov>; JamesWStrawn@gmail.com; Brenda Isaac <brenda.isaac.rn@gmail.com>; arubin@osteo.wvsom.edu  
Subject: RE: Board Meeting

Martha

We already have a presentation planned by Cabin Creek on their new partnership with us (nothing to do with syringe exchange) and we need to discuss the CDC recommendations around Hepatitis A. These are important issues that need to be discussed this month so I am not inclined to cancel the meeting.

As for the article discussing the needle exchange, it has come about because of the safety forum that is happening this Thursday evening with the mayoral candidates.

It has been confirmed that there are some pretty sleazy ads going out calling Amy Goodwin the "needle lady" and weak on crime. They are intimating that we have made "secret" plans to restart our program and bring back the needles if she is elected. When the reporter called me, I felt it was imperative to unequivocally state that Kanawha Charleston Health Department has no intention of bringing back the Syringe Exchange part of the Harm Reduction program. That won't stop the Mayor's antics but nothing will since the polls are showing his candidate is behind and apparently they don't have any other issues to tout.

Regardless of what we do they will discuss it but at least Amy can say it is a dead issue but the substance abuse issue is still alive and growing and isn't going away and we all need to be working together to do whatever we can to combat that problem. No matter which candidate you support, I don't want KCHD to be maligned with lies to support anyone.

I do think that at this point we have nothing to lose and, for the sake of the hard working employees at KCHD, I am inclined to release the summary of those Reviews that we had done primarily to show that the program was not mismanaged and the audit was inaccurate and incorrect. We aren't bringing back the program but our staff deserve the vindication.

I am very proud of the outstanding job that our entire staff has done with the Hepatitis A epidemic which is also going to be around for a while. The CDC officials gave us some very sincere praise when they met with us on that and I want the press to hear that. Steve and Bobby, I know you were there and will agree that they were very pleased with the job

done by our staff and the support from the state's Epidemiology Department and have some very good recommendations for us to continue the surveillance.

We also need to have an executive session to discuss the applications that we have received for the health officer position and some ideas for Tina's vacancy. I have to report to Commissioner Carper immediately after our meeting.

Anyway, Martha, we will miss you, and I am very sorry you can't be there, but we do need to have a meeting. I think we have a lot to be proud of and it needs to be said. I'm not worried about the denigrators because I think they are going to find that their rantings are stale and being proved untrue.

Brenda

Brenda C Isaac BSN, RN, MA, NCSN  
Lead School Nurse  
Kanawha County Schools  
200 Elizabeth St.  
Charleston, WV 25311  
Phone: 304-348-6694 FAX: 304-348-6139  
bcisaac@mail.kana.k12.wv.us

-----Original Message-----

From: Martha Walker <mywwin@aol.com>

Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2018 3:50 PM

To: Steve Weber <sweber6770@aol.com>; robert@reishman.com; Lolita Kirk <Lolita.Kirk@wv.gov>; JamesWStrawn@Gmail.com; Brenda Isaac <brenda.isaac.rn@gmail.com>; Brenda Isaac <bcisaac@mail.kana.k12.wv.us>; arubin@osteo.wvsom.edu

Subject: Board Meeting

I am going to be unavailable for the September board meeting. Because of all of the new interest in the needle exchange generated by today's media coverage, including Facebook, I feel it is important for the entire board to have a robust discussion about the needle exchange and what action the board needs to take. I am not sure what has caused this renewed interest, but I don't think we need to be in the crosshairs again. I suggest we cancel our September meeting, meet in November, and have a make up meeting sometime during the session. I hope you will all considerate it.

Sent by Martha Walker

## Kirk, Lolita

---

**From:** Brenda Isaac <brenda.isaac.rn@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 11, 2018 8:45 PM  
**To:** rreishman  
**Cc:** bcisaac@mail.kana.k12.wv.us; mywwin@aol.com; sweber6770@aol.com; Kirk, Lolita; Jim Strawn; arubin@osteo.wvsom.edu  
**Subject:** Re: Board Meeting

I agree that we need to meet to discuss the very important Hepatitis A epidemic which is ongoing. We also need to discuss the recommendations for CDC and the best way to implement them. Cabin Creek is doing some very positive things in their ongoing partnership with us. They want a chance to tell us about them. These are two of the very important things happening at KCHD and the staff needs the support and praise of the board for the great job they continue to do. Hopefully we can focus the press on these things. We also must discuss the health officer applications since I am being summoned to report on that to the Commission (which I am happy to do). See you next Thursday. Martha we will miss you. You always have such good insight.

Since the consensus seems to be to hold on the HRCSSP discussion and the expert reviews until November, I will go along with that, although it will be discussed by others, that I can guarantee.

Brenda

On Tue, Sep 11, 2018 at 5:13 PM Robert Reishman <[robert@reishman.com](mailto:robert@reishman.com)> wrote:

Brenda,  
I am all for having a meeting in November after the elections as well as our September meeting. I don't think we can do ourselves any good by releasing the report or having discussions with reporters. The needle exchange is a health issue not a political issue and it is too bad it has become one. I would also suggest not emailing anything regarding political issues as they are public record.

Bobby

-----Original Message-----

From: BRENDA ISAAC [mailto:[bcisaac@mail.kana.k12.wv.us](mailto:bcisaac@mail.kana.k12.wv.us)]  
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2018 4:14 PM  
To: Martha Walker <[mywwin@aol.com](mailto:mywwin@aol.com)>; Steve Weber <[sweber6770@aol.com](mailto:sweber6770@aol.com)>; [robert@reishman.com](mailto:robert@reishman.com); Lolita Kirk <[Lolita.Kirk@wv.gov](mailto:Lolita.Kirk@wv.gov)>; [JamesWStrawn@gmail.com](mailto:JamesWStrawn@gmail.com); Brenda Isaac <[brenda.isaac.rn@gmail.com](mailto:brenda.isaac.rn@gmail.com)>; [arubin@osteo.wvsom.edu](mailto:arubin@osteo.wvsom.edu)  
Subject: RE: Board Meeting

Martha

We already have a presentation planned by Cabin Creek on their new partnership with us (nothing to do with syringe exchange) and we need to discuss the CDC recommendations around Hepatitis A. These are important issues that need to be discussed this month so I am not inclined to cancel the meeting. As for the article discussing the needle exchange, it has come about because of the safety forum that is happening this Thursday evening with the mayoral candidates. It has been confirmed that there are some pretty sleazy ads going out calling Amy Goodwin the "needle lady" and weak on crime. They are intimating that we have made "secret" plans to restart our program and bring back the needles if

she is elected. When the reporter called me, I felt it was imperative to unequivocally state that Kanawha Charleston Health Department has no intention of bringing back the Syringe Exchange part of the Harm Reduction program. That won't stop the Mayor's antics but nothing will since the polls are showing his candidate is behind and apparently they don't have any other issues to tout.

Regardless of what we do they will discuss it but at least Amy can say it is a dead issue but the substance abuse issue is still alive and growing and isn't going away and we all need to be working together to do whatever we can to combat that problem. No matter which candidate you support, I don't want KCHD to be maligned with lies to support anyone.

I do think that at this point we have nothing to lose and, for the sake of the hard working employees at KCHD, I am inclined to release the summary of those Reviews that we had done primarily to show that the program was not mismanaged and the audit was inaccurate and incorrect. We aren't bringing back the program but our staff deserve the vindication.

I am very proud of the outstanding job that our entire staff has done with the Hepatitis A epidemic which is also going to be around for a while. The CDC officials gave us some very sincere praise when they met with us on that and I want the press to hear that. Steve and Bobby, I know you were there and will agree that they were very pleased with the job done by our staff and the support from the state's Epidemiology Department and have some very good recommendations for us to continue the surveillance.

We also need to have an executive session to discuss the applications that we have received for the health officer position and some ideas for Tina's vacancy. I have to report to Commissioner Carper immediately after our meeting.

Anyway, Martha, we will miss you, and I am very sorry you can't be there, but we do need to have a meeting. I think we have a lot to be proud of and it needs to be said. I'm not worried about the denigrators because I think they are going to find that their rantings are stale and being proved untrue.

Brenda

Brenda C Isaac BSN, RN, MA, NCSN  
Lead School Nurse  
Kanawha County Schools  
200 Elizabeth St.  
Charleston, WV 25311  
Phone: 304-348-6694 FAX: 304-348-6139  
[bcisaac@mail.kana.k12.wv.us](mailto:bcisaac@mail.kana.k12.wv.us)

-----Original Message-----

From: Martha Walker <[mywwin@aol.com](mailto:mywwin@aol.com)>

Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2018 3:50 PM

To: Steve Weber <[sweber6770@aol.com](mailto:sweber6770@aol.com)>; [robert@reishman.com](mailto:robert@reishman.com); Lolita Kirk <[Lolita.Kirk@wv.gov](mailto:Lolita.Kirk@wv.gov)>;  
JamesWStrawn@Gmail.com; Brenda Isaac <[brenda.isaac.rn@gmail.com](mailto:brenda.isaac.rn@gmail.com)>; Brenda Isaac  
<[bcisaac@mail.kana.k12.wv.us](mailto:bcisaac@mail.kana.k12.wv.us)>; [arubin@osteo.wvsom.edu](mailto:arubin@osteo.wvsom.edu)

Subject: Board Meeting

I am going to be unavailable for the September board meeting. Because of all of the new interest in the needle exchange generated by today's media coverage, including Facebook, I feel it is important for the entire board to have a robust discussion about the needle exchange and what action the board needs to take. I am not sure what has caused this renewed interest, but I don't think we need to be in the crosshairs again. I suggest we cancel our September meeting, meet in November, and have a make up meeting sometime during the session. I hope you will all considerate it.



Sent by Martha Walker

--

Brenda C. Isaac RN  
Lead School Nurse  
Kanawha County Schools  
Charleston, WV  
[brenda.isaac.rn@gmail.com](mailto:brenda.isaac.rn@gmail.com)